

CLAIMS

1. An information output device comprising:

a first information selection unit (102) selecting information;

5 an outline presenting information creation unit (107) creating outline presenting information of multimedia data included in said information selected by said first information selection unit (102);

an outline presenting information creation control unit (106) controlling execution of said outline presenting information creation process at said outline
10 presenting information creation unit (107); and

a presentation unit (105) presenting said created outline presenting information, wherein

said presentation unit (105) presents alternative information to replace said outline presenting information before completion of said outline presenting information
15 creation process.

2. The information output device according to claim 1, wherein said alternative information is said outline presenting information under course of creation processing in said outline presenting information creation unit (107), and said presentation unit (105)
20 presents said outline presenting information under course of creation processing in stages according to said outline presenting information creation process in said outline presenting information creation unit (107).

3. The information output device according to claim 1, further comprising a
25 storage unit (108) storing outline presenting information, wherein

when said outline presenting information is stored in said storage unit (108),

said outline presenting information creation control unit (106) performs control such that said outline presenting information creation process is not executed in said

outline presenting information creation unit (107), and

said presentation unit (105) presents said outline presenting information stored in said storage unit (108).

5 4. The information output device according to claim 3, further comprising a second information selection unit (102, 109) selecting information to be subjected to said outline presenting information creation process based on said information selected by said first information selection unit (102), wherein

10 said outline presenting information creation unit (107) creates outline presenting information for multimedia data included in said information selected by said second information selection unit (102, 109) and stores the same in said storage unit (108).

15 5. The information output device according to claim 4, wherein said second information selection unit (102, 109) selects said information to be subjected to said outline presenting information creation process based on a status of said information output device.

20 6. The information output device according to claim 4, wherein said second information selection unit (102, 109) selects said information to be subjected to said outline presenting information creation process based on an attribute of said information selected by said first information selection unit (102).

25 7. The information output device according to claim 4, wherein when information including a plurality of multimedia data is included in multiple pieces of information selected by said second information selection unit (102, 109), said outline presenting information creation control unit (106) controls execution of said outline presenting information creation process in said outline presenting information creation unit (107) such that, for all information selected by said second information selection

unit (102, 109), outline presenting information for at least one multimedia data included in said information is created.

8. The information output device according to claim 4, wherein when
5 information including a plurality of multimedia data is included in multiple pieces of information selected by said second information selection unit (102, 109), said outline presenting information creation control unit (106) controls execution of said outline presenting information creation process in said outline presenting information creation unit (107) such that, for one piece of information selected by said second information
10 selection unit (102, 109), outline presenting information for multimedia data included in information subsequent to said one piece of information is created after outline presenting information for all multimedia data included in said one piece of information has been created.

15 9. The information output device according to claim 3, further comprising:
a deleted outline presenting information selection unit (106) selecting outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion from said storage unit (108); and
a deletion unit (106) deleting said selected outline presenting information.

20 10. The information output device according to claim 9, wherein said deleted outline presenting information selection unit (106) selects said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion based on an attribute of multimedia data.

25 11. The information output device according to claim 9, wherein said deleted outline presenting information selection unit (106) selects said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion based on a data size of said outline presenting information.

12. The information output device according to claim 9, wherein said deleted outline presenting information selection unit (106) selects said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion based on costs of said outline presenting information creation process in said outline presenting information creation unit (107).

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13. The information output device according to claim 9, wherein said deleted outline presenting information selection unit (106) selects said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion based on a presentation status of said outline presenting information in said presentation unit (105).

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14. The information output device according to claim 9, wherein when said deleted outline presenting information selection unit (106) selects a plurality of said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion, said deletion unit (106) deletes prescribed outline presenting information among said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion such that outline presenting information of at least one multimedia data included in one piece of information is left.

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15. The information output device according to claim 1, further comprising an outline presenting information presentation control unit (105) controlling a timing of presentation of said outline presenting information in said presentation unit (105).

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16. The information output device according to claim 15, wherein said outline presenting information presentation control unit (105) controls said timing of presentation of said outline presenting information in said presentation unit (105) such that said outline presenting information is presented after expiration of a prescribed time interval after said information is selected by said first information selection unit (102).

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17. The information output device according to claim 1, wherein

said multimedia data includes an image, and
said outline presenting information creation unit (107) creates said outline
presenting information using at least a part of said image.

5 18. An information output method comprising:
a first information selection step (S101, S201, S213) of selecting information;
an outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339) of
creating outline presenting information of multimedia data included in said information
selected at said first information selection step (S101, S201, S213);
10 an outline presenting information creation control step (S109, S113, S125, S331,
S335, S337) of controlling execution of said outline presenting information creation
process at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339);
and
a presentation step (S117, S137, S215) of presenting said created outline
15 presenting information, wherein
at said presentation step (S137, S215), alternative information to replace said
outline presenting information is presented before completion of said outline presenting
information creation process.

20 19. The information output method according to claim 18, wherein said
alternative information is said outline presenting information under course of creation
processing at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333,
S339), and at said presentation step (S137, S215), said outline presenting information
under course of creation processing is presented in stages according to said outline
25 presenting information creation process at said outline presenting information creation
step (S111, S127, S333, S339).

20. The information output method according to claim 18, further comprising a

storage step (S133, S345) of storing outline presenting information in a storage device, wherein

when said outline presenting information is stored in said storage device,

5 at said outline presenting information creation control step (S109, S113, S331, S335), control is performed such that said outline presenting information creation process is not executed at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339), and

at said presentation step (S117, S215), said outline presenting information stored in said storage device is presented.

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21. The information output method according to claim 20, further comprising a second information selection step (S301-S313) of selecting information to be subjected to said outline presenting information creation process based on said information selected at said first information selection step (S201), wherein

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at said outline presenting information creation step (S333, S339), outline presenting information of multimedia data included in said information selected at said second information selection step (S301-S313) is created and stored in said storage device.

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22. The information output method according to claim 21, wherein at said second information selection step (S301-S313), said information to be subjected to said outline presenting information creation process is selected based on a status of an information output device.

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23. The information output method according to claim 21, wherein at said second information selection step (S301-S313), said information to be subjected to said outline presenting information creation process is selected based on an attribute of said information selected at said first information selection step (S201).

24. The information output method according to claim 21, wherein when information including a plurality of multimedia data is included in multiple pieces of information selected at said second information selection step (S301-S313), at said
5 outline presenting information creation control step (S331, S335), execution of said outline presenting information creation process at said outline presenting information creation step (S333, S339) is controlled such that, for all the information selected at said second information selection step (S301-S313), outline presenting information of at least one multimedia data included in said information is created.

25. The information output method according to claim 21, wherein when information including a plurality of multimedia data is included in multiple pieces of information selected at said second information selection step (S301-S313), at said
15 outline presenting information creation control step (S331, S335), execution of said outline presenting information creation process at said outline presenting information creation step (S333, S339) is controlled such that, for one piece of information selected at said second information selection step (S301-S313), outline presenting information for multimedia data included in subsequent information is created after outline presenting information for all multimedia data included in said one piece of information
20 has been created.

26. The information output method according to claim 20, further comprising:
a deleted outline presenting information selection step (S501-S511) of selecting
25 outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion from said storage step (S133, S345); and
a deletion step (S513) of deleting said selected outline presenting information.

27. The information output method according to claim 26, wherein at said

deleted outline presenting information selection step (S501-S511), said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion is selected based on an attribute of multimedia data.

5 28. The information output method according to claim 26, wherein at said deleted outline presenting information selection step (S501-S511), said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion is selected based on a data size of said outline presenting information.

10 29. The information output method according to claim 26, wherein at said deleted outline presenting information selection step (S501-S511), said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion is selected based on costs of said outline presenting information creation process at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339).

15 30. The information output method according to claim 26, wherein at said deleted outline presenting information selection step (S501-S511), said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion is selected based on a presentation status of said outline presenting information at said presentation step (S117, S215).

20 31. The information output method according to claim 26, wherein when a plurality of said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion are selected at said deleted outline presenting information selection step (S501-S511), at said deletion step (S513), prescribed outline presenting information among said outline presenting
25 information to be subjected to deletion is deleted such that outline presenting information of at least one multimedia data included in one piece of information is left.

32. The information output method according to claim 18, further comprising

an outline presenting information presentation control step (S117, S215) of controlling a timing of presentation of said outline presenting information at said presentation step (S117, S215).

5 33. The information output method according to claim 32, wherein at said outline presenting information presentation control step (S117, S215), said timing of presentation of said outline presenting information at said presentation step (S117, S215) is controlled such that said outline presenting information is presented after expiration of a prescribed time interval after said information is selected at said first
10 information selection step (S101, S201, S213).

 34. The information output method according to claim 18, wherein
said multimedia data includes an image, and
at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339),
15 said outline presenting information is created using at least a part of said image.

 35. An information output program product causing a computer to execute a process of outputting information including multimedia data, causing execution of:
a first information selection step (S101, S201, S213) of selecting information;
20 an outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339) of creating outline presenting information of multimedia data included in said information selected at said first information selection step (S101, S201, S213);
an outline presenting information creation control step (S109, S113, S125, S331, S335, S337) of controlling execution of said outline presenting information creation
25 process at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339);
and
a presentation step (S117, S137, S215) of presenting said created outline presenting information, wherein

at said presentation step (S117, S137, S215), alternative information to replace said outline presenting information is presented before completion of said outline presenting information creation process.

5 36. The information output program product according to claim 35, wherein said alternative information is said outline presenting information under course of creation processing at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339), and at said presentation step (S137, S215), said outline presenting information under course of creation processing is presented in stages according to said
10 outline presenting information creation process at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339).

37. The information output program product according to claim 35, further causing execution of a storage step (S133, S345) of storing outline presenting
15 information in a storage device, wherein

when said outline presenting information is stored in said storage device,
at said outline presenting information creation control step (S109, S113, S331, S335), control is performed such that said outline presenting information creation process is not executed at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127,
20 S333, S339), and

at said presentation step (S117, S215), said outline presenting information stored in said storage device is presented.

38. The information output program product according to claim 37, further
25 causing execution of a second information selection step (S301-S313) of selecting information to be subjected to said outline presenting information creation process based on said information selected at said first information selection step (S201), wherein
at said outline presenting information creation step (S333, S339), outline

presenting information of multimedia data included in said information selected at said second information selection step (S301-S313) is created and stored in said storage device.